

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 04309 01 OF 02 062055Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SVC-00 /026 W
-----125795 070007Z /15 R
O 061720Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6532

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 YAOUNDE 4309

STADIS////////////////////////////////

FOR ACTING ASST. SECRETARY HARROP FROM AMBASSADOR SMYTHE
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, CM, US
SUBJECT: FY 79 AND FY 80 BUDGETED ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 224147 (B) STATE 219749

1. I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO KEEP ABREAST OF THE ON-GOING
BUDGETARY PROCESS, BUT HAVE FOUND INFORMATION HARD TO COME
BY AND THEREFORE WISH TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION FOR
YOUR REFTEL ON ASSISTANCE RESOURCE LEVELS FOR FY 79 AND
FY 80. HEREWITH FOLLOW MY COMMENTS:

2. I HAD NO IDEA THAT OUR FY 79 AND FY 80 BUDGETARY
LEVELS FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COULD FALL SO FAR SHORT
OF OUR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, WHICH TO AN UNPRECEDENTED
EXTENT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED IN GENUINE COLLABORATION WITH
GURC, AND ACCORDING TO OUR ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCE LEVELS APPROPRIATE
TO U.S. INTERESTS HERE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF CAMEROON IN
AFRICA AND IN WORLD FORA. AS YOU WILL RECALL, OUR GORM,
ABS, AND COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT (CDSS)
PROPOSED A LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE FOR 1980 THAT WOULD
CORRESPOND TO THE ORDER OF MAGNITUDE OF RESOURCES
(I.E., DOLS 30-40 MILLION) COMMITTED ANNUALLY BY THE
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EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND THE GERMANS, I.E. AT THE

ANK#OF DONORS JWTDILOW#
THE FRENCH AND THE WORLD BANK.
FORTUNATELY, THE PROCESS OF COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMMING
DEVELOPED BY OURSELVES AND THE CAMEROONIANS HAS PRODUCED
SUFFICIENT CONCRETE, APPROPRIATE, AND APPARENTLY FEASIBLE

PROGRAM IDEAS THAT WE ARE CONFIDENT RESOURCES AT THE PROPOSED LEVEL WILL BE USED PRODUCTIVELY -- IN TERMS BOTH OF GENUINE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND OF STRENGTHENING THE U.S./CAMEROONIAN RELATIONSHIP. DESPITE AMBASSADOR BINDZI'S PERSONAL VIEWS, THERE IS STRONG SUPPORT AT THE HIGHEST GURC LEVELS, STARTING WITH PRESIDENT AHIDJO HIMSELF, FOR THE THRUST OF THE AID PROGRAM IN CAMEROON. THIS IS PARTLY DUE TO THE GURC'S APPRECIATION OF OUR RECENTLY SIGNED DOLS 7.5 MILLION LOAN FOR TRANSCAM III AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH NEW ACTIVITIES PROPOSED FOR 1979 AND 1980 RESPOND TO REAL GURC PRIORITIES.

3. I AM DEEPLY DISTURBED BY THE LOW LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE RESOURCES ALLOCATED TO CAMEROON IN COMPARISON TO OTHER COUNTRIES OF SIMILAR PRIORITY. I COULD UNDERSTAND THIS IF WE DID NOT HAVE SOUND PROJECTS TO BACK UP OUR PROPOSALS, BUT THIS IS MANIFESTLY NOT THE CASE, PARTICULARLY SINCE CAMEROON IS A SERIOUS COUNTRY THAT KNOWS WHAT IT WANTS AND GOES ABOUT ACHIEVING ITS DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN A LOGICAL MANNER. I WOULD HOPE THAT ALL COUNTRY PROGRAM LEVELS WILL BE REVIEWED FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE. WITH REGARD TO THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE LEVELS FOR CAMEROON IN PARA 2(C) OF REF A, I AM HAMPERED IN RESPONDING BECAUSE I AM NOT INFORMED AS TO WHICH ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN DROPPED. I FEEL SOMEWHAT LIKE A BLIND QUADRAPLEGIC, NOT KNOWING WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OR HOW MANY OF MY LIMBS HAVE BEEN CUT OFF. I ASSUME THAT THE FY 79 LEVEL OF DOLS 7.8 MILLION WAS ARRIVED AT BY DROPPING SOME DOLS 1.5 MILLION IN PROPOSED NEW PROJECTS AND THAT THE FY 80 LEVEL OF DOLS 8.0 MILLION ELIMINATES ALL BUT ONE OF THE SOME DOLS 17 MILLION IN NEW LOAN AND GRANT PROJECTS PROPOSED IN THE XY 80 ABS.

4. WITH REGARD TO NEW FY 79 PROJECTS, AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING, MANDARA MOUNTAINS DAMS, NATIONAL CEREALS, RESEARCH AND EXTENSION, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, AND MEDCAM ARE ALL IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PROJECT DESIGN WITH SIGNIFICANT PARTICIPATION BY THE GURC. THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROJECT PAPER HAS BEEN JOINTLY DRAFTED BY AID AND THE CAMEROONIAN HEALTH STAFF, AND WE FULLY EXPECT THAT THE FINISHED PRODUCT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO US WITH A REQUEST EARLY IN THE COMING FISCAL YEAR. THE MAXIMUM CUT IN OUR FY 79 CP BUDGET LEVEL THAT WE CAN ABSORB WITHOUT DEFAULTING SIGNIFICANTLY IN OUR RESPONSE TO THE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMMING PROCESS WOULD BE ON THE ORDER OF DOLS 600-700 THOUSAND.

5. WITH REGARD TO FY 80 PROJECTS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT AT LEAST DOLS 2.5 MILLION BE REINSTATED FOR THE FULL

UNIVERSITY HIGHER EDUCATION PROJECT WHICH REPRESENTS AM
INITIATIVE FROM THE PRESIDENCY AND A HIGHEST-ORDER
PRIORITY OF THE GURC. THE NEXT PRIORITY WOULD BE THE
FUNDS PROVIDED FOR IN THE ENHANCEMENT PACKAGE IN PARAC
2(B) FOR MEDCAM. IN ADDITION, FUNDS SHOULD BE ADDED FOR
FOOD CROP PROTECTION (DOLS 400,000), NATIONAL SEED
SERVICE (DOLS 1 MILLION), SMALL FARMER FISH PRODUCTION
(DOLS 200,000), THE PILOT INTERMINISTERIAL URBAN SERVICES
(DOLS 249,000).

NOTE BY OC/T: YAOUNDE 4309/1 PARA 2 AS RECEIVED. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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O 061720Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6533

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FOR ACTING ASST. SECRETARY HARROP FROM AMBASSADOR SMYTHE

THE FOOD CROP PROTECTION PROJECT REPRESENTS A BILATERAL FOLLOW-ON OF THE CAMEROON ACTIVITIES FUNDED THROUGH XY 79 UNDER THE REGIONALLY FUNDED SAHEL FOOD CROP PROTECTION PROJECT. THIS IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN THE IMPRESSIVE MOMENTUM WHICH IS DEVELOPING IN THIS FIELD IN CAMEROON FOR WHICH OTHER USG FUNDS ARE PRESUMABLY UNAVAILABLE, GIVEN CAMEROON'S INABILITY TO GAIN MEMBERSHIP IN CILSS. THE NATIONAL SEED SERVICE PROJECT REPRESENTS THE LOGICAL NEXT STEP OF THE ON-GOING SEED PROJECT, AND THE GURC'S DESIRE THAT WE PURSUE ITS CREATION WAS COMMUNICATED IN JULY DURING THE JOINT PROGRAMMING DISCUSSIONS REPORTED IN YAOUNDE 3434. SMALL FARMER FISH PROTECTION PROJECT IS A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT DEVELOPED WITH THE PEACE CORPS. THE PILOT INTERMINIS-

TERIAL SERVICES PROJECT REPRESENTS A FOLLOW-ON TO THE PRESENT LOW INCOME HOUSING PROJECT DESIGNED TO INSURE

THAT THE NEWLY CREATED SITES AND SERVICES COMMUNITIES
IN DOUALA AND YAOUNDE EVOLVE INTO HEALTHY COMMUNITIES OF
LOW INCOME URBAN DWELLERS RATHER THAN SLUMS AND
THAT THEIR CONSTRUCTION IS CARRIED OUT BY SMALL CAMEROONIAN
ENTERPRISES AND THAT SUCH ENTERPRISES ARE ALSO THE
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PRINCIPAL BENEFICIARIES OF THE MARKETS THAT DEVELOP IN
THE NEW COMMUNITIES.

6. YOUR PRESENTATION APPEARS TO OMIT ALL LOANS, INCLUDING
THE RURAL ROADS I PROPOSAL, FOR WHICH DOLS 10 MILLION
WAS INCLUDED IN OUR FY 80 ABS. WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE,
HOWEVER, THAT IF WE WISH TO BE A FULL PARTNER IM CAMEROON'S
DEVELOPMENT WE MUST BE PREPARED TO SHARE IN THE FINANCING
OF HER UNUSUAL TRANSPORT INVESTMENT BURDEN -- ESPECIALLY
WHERE THE BENEFITS FALL SO IMPORTANTLY ON SMALL FOOD
PRODUCERS. WE WOULD THEREFORE WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT
ANY EFFORTS WHICH MIGHT BE MADE TO EAR-MARK AID FUNDS
FOR INFRASTRUCTURE LOANS.

7. WHILE I APPRECIATE THE TIME CONSTRAINTS UNDER WHICH
WE ALL MUST OPERATE, I WOULD BE PLEASED TO RESPOND
FURTHER BY RETURN IMMEDIATE IF INFORMATION ON THE
COMPOSITION OF THE FY 79-80 LEVELS COULD BE GIVEN.

8. WE WELCOME THE PL 480 PROPOSED FUNDING LEVELS WHICH
SUPPORT OUR PROPOSALS.

9. RE PARA 4 (REFTEL A) CONTINGENCY PLANS SHOULD BE MADE
FOR POSSIBLE EQUATORIAL GUINEAN REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
IF A DECISION IS MADE ON BASIS RESPONSES REFTEL B
AND DOMESTIC PRESSURES TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS
IN CONJUNCTION TO REQUESTS MADE BY GURC OR PVO'S.

10. IN PARAS 5 AND 6. (REFTEL A) I WOULD HOPE THAT THERE
WILL BE FIRM SUPPORT TO KEEP THE FMS CREDIT PROGRAM FOR
CAMEROON AT DOLLARS 3.75 MILLION LEVEL AND THE IMETP AT DOLLARS .250
MILLION. THESE PROGRAMS ARE AMONG MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS WHICH USG
HAS AVAILABLE TO MEET CAMEROON'S PERCEIVED SECURITY NEEDS
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AT RELATIVELY MODEST COST. THE IMETP PROGRAM IS PARTICULARLY
APPROPRIATE AS ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRANING FACILITIES
AVAILABLE TO GURC PRACTICALLY NON-EXISTENT AND THEY
WOULD LIKE HAVE ACCESS TO WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE BEST

MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE WORLD, NAMELY, U.S. THESE,
HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, AND I STRONGLY URGE THAT EVERY
EFFORT BE MADE TO STRENGTHEN THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE
PART OF THE BUDGET.
SMYTHE

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